

Board Report

Month: May 2025

Administrator: Angela Telfer, Executive Director for Special Education

Update:

Honoring Excellence in Special Education

Tonight, we proudly honor the recipients of the **KRESA Parent Advisory Committee Excellence in Special Education Award for 2025**. These outstanding individuals have gone above and beyond in their roles, demonstrating unwavering commitment, compassion, and dedication to supporting students with disabilities.

2025 Award Recipients

- ❖ **Krystina D'Arcy**, Teacher – KRESA Specialized Instructional Supports at Amberly Elementary, Portage Public Schools
- ❖ **Karen Raffenaud**, Teacher – WoodsEdge Learning Center
- ❖ **Rhonda Sturgeon**, Teacher – Valley Center School
- ❖ **Delaney Wilkins**, Teacher – WoodsEdge Learning Center

This year, a total of 18 KRESA staff members were nominated for the Excellence in Special Education Award. We celebrate all nominees for their contributions to creating inclusive and enriching learning environments.

These **Kalamazoo RESA staff members** were nominated for the award this year:

KRESA Specialized Instructional Supports

Mark Boothby, Teacher (Parchment Middle School)

Elise Pickard, Paraprofessional (Amberly Elementary, Portage Public Schools)



Valley Center School

Shelby Bishop, Coordinator

Terasa Reurink, Teacher

WoodsEdge Learning Center

Chae Dorer, Teacher

Sydney Koob, Paraprofessional

Sherry Lloyd, Paraprofessional

Megan Lozen, Coordinator

Dianne Scoffin, Teacher

Kayla Sword, Teacher

Britnee Watson, Paraprofessional

Trista White-Welch, Paraprofessional

Jessica Woodard, Paraprofessional

Tesla Wright, Teacher

The **Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)**, established under the Michigan Mandatory Education Act, plays a crucial role in ensuring parental input into the countywide plan for special education programs and services. Open to representatives from all nine local districts, PAC actively advocates for students with disabilities and their families.

Each year, PAC sponsors the **Excellence in Special Education Award** to recognize individuals who make a profound impact in the lives of students with **Individualized Education Programs (IEPs)**. Nominations are submitted by parents, family members, guardians, and students and collected by the KRESA Special Education Office. PAC members carefully review each nomination and vote to determine the winners across the nine local districts and Kalamazoo RESA.

This award is open to all individuals who positively impact students with disabilities, including educators, administrators, support staff, volunteers, and more.

We extend our deepest gratitude to all the nominees and award recipients for their extraordinary contributions. **Their work transforms futures, and we celebrate this extraordinary work.**

Action Item:

None





KALAMAZOO RESA

Special Education

Fiscal Impact:

None

Attachments:

None

